

PAPER CONFEREES FIND NO SOLUTION

They Agree, However, to Continue Cooperation on News Print Problem.

COMMITTEE IS APPOINTED

It Will Meet at the Call of the Federal Trade Commission.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—After a day of discussion the conference of newspaper publishers and paper jobbers and manufacturers with the Federal Trade Commission adjourned to-night after agreeing upon a plan for the continuation of the cooperative effort to find a solution of the news print paper problem.

Representatives of the publishers, jobbers and manufacturers will meet in Washington to confer with the trade commission at the call of the latter, probably within a week or ten days. It is expected that by this time statistics of the production, consumption and distribution of paper, with cost and selling prices, will have been gathered.

Intimations were forthcoming from the commission to-day that if the parties interested could not arrive at a settlement the commission itself would decide on a working plan.

Davies' Suggestion.

The suggestion made by Commissioner Davies that the manufacturers set aside 5 per cent. of their unsold tonnage and that the larger newspaper publishers yield a similar amount of their contracts to be placed in a pool for distribution to the smaller publishers did not meet with favor. The larger newspaper publishers did not like the idea of sacrificing any of their contracted supply to benefit the small publishers.

The country publishers were disposed to lay their troubles to the jobbers and manufacturers. The manufacturers denied indignantly that they had shown favoritism in allotting their supply. Others blamed general conditions. Various suggestions were brought forward, but at the end of the long discussion an agreement seemed to be as far away as ever.

The trade commission nevertheless has not abandoned the hope that an amicable conclusion may be reached. To this end a committee made up of two representatives each of the manufacturers, jobbers, the large publishers and the country publishers was designated.

Manufacturers Criticized.

In to-day's meeting the large publishers argued that an increase in production would be a simple matter if the manufacturers displayed a willingness to cooperate. In this they were supported by the small publishers. Both classes of publishers too insisted that prices were beyond reason, and assurance was given by the trade commission that perfecting of any distribution plan would not stop the commission's investigation of that subject. Commissioner Davies declared the commission was of the opinion that print paper was a public necessity and that prices now charged for it were extortionate.

It was brought out that although the cost of production—as determined by the trade commission's investigation—has remained about stationary, prices to the large publishers have advanced from 2.15 cents a pound on 1916 contracts to an average of 3.10 on 1917 contracts, with an added item in that mills next year quote prices at the factories instead of at the place of delivery. A prospectus issued by one manufacturing concern was presented to show that the manufacturer endeavoring to sell stock in his mill claims a profit of \$15 a ton on paper manufactured this year, in addition to a surplus accumulated.

Manufacturers opposed to-day every suggestion that production be increased by putting on news print work machines that now are turning out other classes of paper.

Midnight Masses Authorized.

At the hour when the Prince of Peace was born several hundred thousand Catholics of New York will unite in prayer Christmas morning for the end of the war in Europe. For this special object Cardinal Parley yesterday gave permission for the celebration of midnight masses in all the churches in the archdiocese of New York.

UNIVERSAL SERVICE TO BE THRESHED OUT

Army Officers to Face Pacifists on Compulsory Drill System.

GUARDSMEN TO TESTIFY

Senate Committee Will Make Study of Prevailing Opinions.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The stage is being set in Washington for a thorough discussion of universal military training as the only means of real preparedness for war.

Secretary of War Baker, Major-General Hugh L. Scott, Chief of Staff, and army officers may be given an opportunity to express their views before the House Military Committee within the next week or so, and certainly will be asked for their opinions by the sub-committee of the Senate Military Committee, which will hold hearings on the Chamberlain bill providing for compulsory training and service.

Secretary Baker expects to appear before the House Committee on Military Affairs on matters pertaining to War Department appropriations Monday. Mr. Baker is not opposed to the idea of universal military training, provided he is assured that this is the only means for providing the defense of the country which has so completely collapsed in the Federalized militia plan, according to the view of the army. He hopes to await developments before reaching a decision, and will of course be guided by the President's view, which probably will not be definitely matured until the sentiment of the country has been ascertained.

But the Senate sub-committee contemplates making a comprehensive study of the whole question, and if the opinion of army officers prevails will call for the testimony of pacifists, civilians and enemies of the compulsory service idea, as well as National Guard officers and military experts in the regular army.

The belief is expressed in army circles that the testimony of such men as William J. Bryan, Henry Ford and David Starr Jordan should be obtained and compared with the testimony of Major-General Scott and his supporters. The general idea of the hearings will be to bring before the country the various solutions offered in the interests of real military preparedness on the assumption that some sort of preparedness is admittedly necessary.

Particular stress is laid on the importance of testimony from officers of the National Guard. It is said in army circles that the testimony of militia officers will be found, almost without exception, to support the contention that the Hay scheme for Federalizing the militia has proved a failure and that the only solution now lies in the plan for compulsory service.

General staff officers will emphasize their conviction that the United States army at present is a negligible quantity so far as defense of the country is concerned. Such as it is the regular army is regarded as efficient and comparing favorably to the European troops, but in point of numbers it is regarded as entirely insignificant.

While preparing data for the committee on the mobile army of the United States one of the General Staff officers was interrupted by a messenger, who brought him some data sent in by the bureau of military information. It pertained to the casualties of Russian officers which have been recorded since January 1, 1916. The number of dead, wounded and captured Russian officers since that recent date was \$5,000—more than the entire mobile army of the United States.

XMAS AT STOCK EXCHANGE.

Big Tree and Santa Claus for Employees on Dec. 23.

The New York Stock Exchange this year in addition to regular gifts of money to its employees at Christmas, will set a precedent by throwing open the "Change floor for a Santa Claus party for its employees and their families. The nature and spirit of the party is best indicated by the fact that Garibaldi, the elevator man, will be there with his wife and their nine children. The floor will be thrown open from 3 to 5 P. M. on the afternoon of Saturday, December 23, and the programme thus far arranged includes music by the Seventh Regiment Band, singing by a glee club, a big Christmas tree, and a regular Santa Claus chimney with a live "Santy" to come down it.

"SANTA" AT BANKERS CLUB.

Celebration by Trust Company Employees at 16 Wall Street.

Three floors of the Bankers Trust Company, 16 Wall street, were thrown

open last night for the Christmas festival of the Bankers Club. All of its 300 members—clerks, stenographers and pages—took part in the singing and dancing.

A Christmas tree twenty feet high stood on the check table of the main floor; lemonade and punch were served from other tables; three orchestras, one

for each floor, played dance music, while at intervals a negro chorus sang from the credit department in the balcony. Bunches of violets, presented by Seward Prosser, president of the company, were distributed to the dancers.

Toward the end of the evening a Santa Claus entered preceded by a sleigh drawn by costumed pages. The

sleigh was loaded with favors for the ladies. The president of the club, William Howard Bonahue, closed the affair with a few words relating the growth and prosperity of the company. This year the Bankers Trust Company has distributed to employees a bonus averaging 27 per cent. of their yearly salaries.

LLEWELLYN WORKS ABLAZE.

Plant Blown Up by McNamara in 1910 Has Another Explosion.

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 16.—Fire said to have resulted from an explosion caused damage estimated at \$500,000 in the plant of the Llewellyn Iron Works

here to-day. An investigation to determine the cause of the explosion was started by the police. John J. McNamara, former secretary-treasurer of the International Union of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, serving a sentence in San Quentin penitentiary for the dynamiting of this plant in 1910.

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The Vocalion is a wonderful instrument, a permanent pleasure, a beautiful influence in the life of an individual—or a home.

It will temper the bleakness of a winter day, send the voice of the dance through vacation hours, have ready always a song of cheer, of courage, sympathy, and inspiring sweetness.

IT will interpret the richness of a great art—resound the most wonderful creations of thousands of artists.

All this not for an hour, a day—but through the years. Its subtle stimulation of the love of music will stamp with happiness the future of all whom it reaches!

Truly the Vocalion is a gift worth while.

HEAR this wonderful new phonograph of greater power, tomorrow. Let its own, sweet voice be the story of achievement. Hear your favorite records played as never before—richer, finer, truly remarkable in musical quality. Then play the Vocalion yourself.

Learn the fascinating enjoyment of varying each record—of shading each tone—of finding self-expression in music with the guidance and suggestion of talented musicians. This, as you know, is the accomplishment of the revolutionary Vocalion tone-control—the Graduola.

DO not delay. Vocalion stocks are still complete—Christmas delivery assured. But with every day certainty grows less. Crowds increase and shopping is less comfortable.

Come tomorrow, hear the Vocalion.

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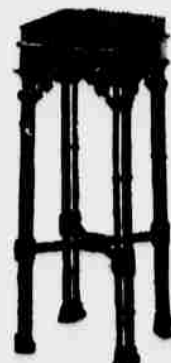
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